Improvement of Science Education in Schools providing for financial assistance to the States/Union Territories for provision of science kits to upper primary schools, setting up/upgradation of science laboratories, library facilities in secondary/senior secondary schools and training of science and mathematics teachers. Under the scheme assistance is also available to the voluntary organizations for undertaking innovative and experimental projects in the field of science education.

(c) State-wise details of the financial assistance provided under the scheme during the last five years is as here under:

Rs. in Lakhs

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Year	Amount Released
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1999-2000	480.00
2.	Karnataka	2001-2002	28.22
		2002-2003	500.00
3.	Kerala	1997-1998	175.22
		1999-2000	399.92

Promotion of Bal Sahitya

429. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme or strategy has been evolved by Government to promote children literature (Bal Sahitya); and

(b) whether the Government have introduced any award for promoting Bal Sahitya, if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) The National Book Trust, India (NBT) is an autonomous organization set up under this Ministry to produce and encourage production of good literature, and to make such literature available at moderate prices to the public. The NBT has been working to produce and promote meaningful literature for children. It has developed a rich collection of children's literature, with this objective, the National Central for Children's Literature (NCCL) was set up in the NBT in 1993 as a coordinating agency to promote children's literature in all Indian lanuguages. Following activities are undertaken under NCCL:

(i) Seminars/workshops for authors, publishers, illustrators, publishers involved in development of children's literature.

(ii) Reader's club movement More than forty thousand Reader's clubs are established in schools, non-formal education centres, libraries all over the country. The NCCL provides books worth Rs. 250/- as an incentive to each new club.

(iii) NCCL library The NCCL has set up a reference library of children's literature with a stock of more than ten thousand books from about thirty six countries in eleven Indian & sixteen foreign languages.

(iv) Organization of exhibitions of children's books in the country to populatrize them.

(b) No Sir, the Government has no award scheme for children's literature.

Non-Payment of salary of employees of Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Jangia

†430. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees of the Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Jangia, Himachal Pradesh have not been paid salary for the last 20 months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and by when they will be paid their salary;

(c) whether Government would consider to transfer the employees to other college for the smooth functionign of the college;

(d) whether Government propose to appoint a regular and competent principal in the college; and

(e) whether Government propose to dissolve the existing Managing Committee of the College and to constitute a new under the direct control of the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) As informed by Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Human Resource

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.